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Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SMS-01 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /071 W
----------106307 161756Z /46
R 160725Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9577
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T KABUL 6617

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINR, PINT, MASS, AF, UR
SUBJ: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SOVIET ADVISORS IN EACH AFGHAN
MINISTRY - NOFORN

1. THERE FOLLOWS OUR BEST CURRENT ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF SOVIET ADVISORS NOW WORKING AT EACH MINISTRY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA) AT KABUL. IN THE CASES OF THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE, DEFENSE, AND MINES AND INDUSTRIES, WE ALSO HAVE INCLUDED AN ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF SOVIETS WORKING IN THOSE DEPARTMENTS NATIONWIDE. FOR THE MINISTRIES OF COMMUNICATIONS AND JUSTICE, WE DO NOT YET HAVE SUFFICIENT DATA ON WHICH TO BASE A RELIABLE
ESTIMATE. THE SAME HOLDS TRUE FOR THE MINISTRIES OF PLANNING AND HIGHER EDUCATION, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW BOTH HAVE NUMEROUS SOVIET ADVISORS.

MINISTRY ADVISORS

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS 2 OR 3
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE 100 AT THE MINISTRY ITSELF, AND
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800 TO 900 NATIONWIDE
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH 3
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR 6
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION 8 TO 10
MINISTRY OF RADIO & TV 2 OR 3
MINISTRY OF PLANNING UNKNOWN
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE 10 AT THE MINISTRY ITSELF, AND

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175 NATIONWIDE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE 18
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
CULTURE 3 OR 4
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE UNKNOWN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE 1 (WITH UN ADVISORUP)
MINISTRY OF MINES AND
INDUSTRIES 100 TO 150 AT THE MINISTRY ITSELF,
AND 700 NATIONWIDE
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS 40
MINISTRY OF WATER AND POWER 80
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNKNOWN
MINISTRY OF FRONTIER AFFAIRS NO SOVIET ADVISORS ARE KNOWN
TO BE IN THIS MINISTRY, BUT ALL
MINISTRIES ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE
AT LEAST ONE.
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS UNKNOWN

TOTAL: 2,564

2. THERE ARE ALSO TWO HUNDRED SOVIETS MANNING A MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY IN KABUL. THIS FACILITY IS FOR THE USE OF SOVIET PERSONNEL ONLY.

3. WE MUST EMPHASIZE THAT THESE FIGURES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY. THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER, WHICH MINISTRY HAS BEEN RECEIVING
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THE GREATEST INFLUX OF ADVISORS IN RELATIVE TERMS. PRIOR TO THE REVOLUTION OF APRIL 27, THERE WERE NO MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED SOVIET ADVISORS THROUGHOUT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND WITH THE AFGHAN FORCES IN THE FIELD. WE BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL EVENTUALLY BE AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SOVIETS WORKING IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, OR, PERHAPS, THE ADDITION OF ADVISORS FROM EAST GERMANY.
DUBS

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